GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
SKILL DEVELOPMENT AND ENTREPRENEURSHIP
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:6368
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Support to Rural Women and Young Entrepreneurs
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Will the Minister of SKILL DEVELOPMENT AND ENTREPRENEURSHIP be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has developed a roadmap to support rural women and young entrepreneurs;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government has taken any steps to provide non-discriminatory markets for the existing rural entrepreneurs in India; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

(a) to (d) Ministry of Skill Development & Entrepreneurship (MSDE) has launched its flagship scheme Pradhan Mantri Yuva Udyamita Vikas Abhiyaan (PM-YUVA) on 9th November, 2016 to impart entrepreneurship education and training. The scheme spans over five years (2016-17 to 2020-21) with a project cost of Rs. 499.94 crore and will provide entrepreneurship education and training to over 14.5 lakh students. Under this scheme, over all at least 30% students enrolled would be women. Ministry of Micro, Small & Medium Enterprises is already implementing Trade Related Entrepreneurship Development Assistance Development (TREAD) Scheme which envisages economic empowerment of women. Under this Scheme financial loans are provided by Nationalized Banks and grants by Government of India upto 30% of the loan subject to maximum limit of Rs.30.00 lakh through NGOs for capacity building and for undertaking self-employment ventures by women in nonÂ farm activities.

The Ministry of Women and Child Development is implementing Rashtriya Mahila Kosh (RMK) (National Credit Fund for Women) which provide incentives and concessions to women entrepreneurs and Support to Training and Employment Programme for Women (STEP). RMK is an apex micro-finance organization with an objective to provide micro-credit to poor women for various livelihood support and income generating activities. STEP scheme aims to provide competencies and skill that enable women to become self employed/entrepreneurs.

Likewise, Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare in line with the National Policy on Farmers − 2007 has included mainstreaming the human and gender dimensions in all farm policies and programmes as one of the major policy goals. Department of Agriculture, Cooperation & Farmers Welfare (DAC & FW), as a part of its mainstreaming efforts ensures flow of funds to the tune of 30% for the benefit of women farmers under its various beneficiary oriented schemes. The guidelines of schemes namely Support to State Extension programmes for Extension Reforms; National Food Security Mission; National Mission on Oilseed & Oil Palm; National Mission on Sustainable Agriculture; Sub-Mission for Seed & Planting Material; Sub-Mission on Agricultural Mechanization and Mission for Integrated Development of Horticulture stipulate that States and other Implementing Agencies are required to incur at least 30% expenditure on Women. National Gender Resource Centre in Agriculture (NGRCA) set up in the Department acts as a focal point to converge all gender related activities and issues in agriculture & allied sectors within and outside DAC & FW; add gender dimension to agriculture policies & programmes and render advisory/advocacy services to the States/UTs to ensure that the policies and programmes in agriculture are fully engendered.

Further, Ministry of Rural Development (MoRD) is undertaking Skill development through Rural Self Employment and Training Institutes (RSETI), thereby enabling the trainee to take bank credit and start his/her own Micro-enterprise. Some of such trainees may also seek regular salaried jobs. The total number of candidates, including women candidates, trained by RSETIs in the last three Financial Years is given below:-

Financial Year	Total No. of candidates trained	No. of Women candidates trained	% of Women candidates trained
2014 - 15	392206	226691	57.8%
2015 - 16	436388	255943	58.6%
2016 - 17	444974	264268	59.3%

RSETI scheme does not facilitate in creating market for rural entrepreneurs. However, through RSETI courses an effort is made to build capabilities in trainees for creating forward and backward linkage to create better marketing enterprise.